

REMARKS

Claims 1, 5-12, 14, 16-20, and 24-32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being anticipated by United States Patent Number 6,978,282 to Dings (hereinafter Dings) in view of United States Patent Number 5,937,343 to Leung (hereinafter Leung). Claims 13 and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dings in view of United States Patent Number 6,959,369 to Ashton (hereinafter Ashton).

Applicants regret that we will be unable to discuss the proposed amendment per our discussion of January 31, 2008. Applicants submit the proposed amendment with this response as request, and reiterate our willingness to move the application forward.

Amendments to the claims

Applicants have amended claim 1 with the limitation "...the pre-copy record comprising the future pre-pairing record if the future pre-pairing record exists else comprising the current replication record..." The amendment is fully supported by the specification. See page 25, ¶ 110.

Response to rejections of claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1, 5-12, 14, 16-20, and 24-32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being anticipated by Dings in view of Leung. Claims 13 and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dings in view of Ashton. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Claims 1, 11, 17, 20, and 30-32 as amended include the limitation "...the pre-copy record comprising the future pre-pairing record if the future pre-pairing record exists else comprising the current replication record..." Claim 1 as amended. See also claims 11, 17, 20, and 30-32. In contrast, Leung teaches creating a new record from an update. Leung, col. 10, lines 28-30; fig. 11A, ref. 108, 116. Dings, Leung, and Ashton do not teach the pre-copy record comprising the future pre-pairing record if the future pre-pairing record exists else comprising the current replication record. Applicants therefore submit that claims 1, 11, 17, 20, and 30-32 are allowable, and that claims 5-10, 12-16, 18, 19, and 24-29 are allowable as depending from allowable claims.

Should additional information be required regarding the traversal of the rejections of the claims enumerated above, Examiner is respectfully asked to notify Applicants of such need. If any impediments to the prompt allowance of the claims can be resolved by a telephone conversation, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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